

**Subject:** Re: Spring St Park Incident

**From:** Nicholas Previsich

**Date:** 01/13/2016 02:50 PM

**To:** Blair Besten <blair@historiccore.bid>, Rick Brownell <cpsbrownell@sbcglobal.net>

**CC:** Michael Mitchell <MichaelMitchell@theprimeas.com>, William Stevenson <bill@downtown-properties.com>, "patti@pattiberman.com" <patti@pattiberman.com>, Diana Yedoyan <diana.yedoyan@lacity.org>, Deon Joseph <32511@lapd.lacity.org>, Anika Ostin <anika.ostin@lacity.org>, Noah Strouse <noah@historiccore.bid>, Brittney Garza <brittney@historiccore.bid>, FTO F1 Stefanie Reyes <stephanie@historiccore.bid>

Blair, understand all. On that note, the benches on the outside of the north & south corners of the park are often centers of illicit activity as well. Be very helpful if you could ask the patrols to swing by there more often, esp. late at night. Those areas are actually considered Park property by RAP; in fact, RAP barricaded off the north bench for a few weeks to try to break some patterns.

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**From:** Blair Besten <blair@historiccore.bid>

**To:** Rick Brownell <cpsbrownell@sbcglobal.net>

**Cc:** Michael Mitchell <MichaelMitchell@theprimeas.com>; Nicholas Previsich <nkprev@yahoo.com>; William Stevenson <bill@downtown-properties.com>; "patti@pattiberman.com" <patti@pattiberman.com>; Diana Yedoyan <diana.yedoyan@lacity.org>; Deon Joseph <32511@lapd.lacity.org>; Anika Ostin <anika.ostin@lacity.org>; Noah Strouse <noah@historiccore.bid>; Brittney Garza <brittney@historiccore.bid>; FTO F1 Stefanie Reyes <stephanie@historiccore.bid>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 8:11 AM

**Subject:** Re: Spring St Park Incident

Thanks, Rick!

This is a great plan. As much as we would love to be backup inside the park-Park and Recs has made it very clear we are not to enter park property as a function of security or maintenance. It's therefore a huge liability for us if anything happens. We can still be a resource around the perimeter for sure.

Blair Besten

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 12, 2016, at 7:48 PM, Rick Brownell <[cpsbrownell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cpsbrownell@sbcglobal.net)> wrote:

Bill,

Sorry for not getting back to you on this issue sooner. Been very busy on this and other problems all week. First, while this particular event had a less than optimal result we did learn some things and will improve our operation from what we learned. Now our guard did call for a back up I had 5 officers there within 5 mins. Trouble was the incident was over in 2 mins. This event occurred a few mins before noon and the start time for our El Dorado guard. The only guard immediately proximate to the incident was our Rowan guard, who decided to call the police before responding instead of using his cell phone and calling while responding. The cause of less than optimal result was we ended up in a we said they said toss up where the responding LAPD officer decided to kiss the matter off rather than conduct a real investigation and determine who was telling the truth. They seemed miffed that there was no video ( what did the police do before video everywhere) and refused to try and determine if the bad guys were in fact smoking marijuana. That fact is mind boggling since that fact should be easy to establish. Anyway had our Rowan guard responded immediately he could have witnessed the event and at the very least made it more difficult for the LAPD officers to kiss the call off. To satisfy the LAPD officers hunger for video I am buying body cams for our park guards. Future incidents WILL have video. Next we are equipping our guard with improved communications gear and improving policy to speed up response and support for operations in the park.

We are happy to hear that our efforts in the park are viewed as a success and rest assured we will continue to strive to improve the level of that success. We appreciate the interest in this incident and the safety of our guards. We believe that we have identified what went wrong in this case and the improvements we have made will help us to provide the LAPD with evidence they seem to need to arrest violators who choose to assault our guards and misuse the park.

The suggestions made are all good ones, and certainly would improve the park but I think we are good for now. More contact with and more presence of BID officers would certainly enhance our efforts and would be welcome. We appreciate the interest of all concerned, and would ask that any residents of the adjoining buildings or anyone observing an incident notify one of our guards, call the Chase Watch Commander, or the BID or the Police. That will be of great help and would be very appreciated.

Should anyone have any questions or any suggestions please give me a call.

Rick

On Monday, January 4, 2016 1:20 PM, Michael Mitchell <[MichaelMitchell@theprimeas.com](mailto:MichaelMitchell@theprimeas.com)> wrote:

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**From:** Blair Besten [<mailto:blair@historiccore.biz>]

**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2016 8:42 AM

**To:** Nicholas Previsich

**Cc:** William Stevenson; [patti@pattiberman.com](mailto:patti@pattiberman.com); Diana Yedoyan; Deon Joseph; Michael Mitchell; Rick; Anika Ostin; Noah Strouse

**Subject:** Re: Spring St Park Incident

Cameras are the best idea and would both deter and help police.

I wish we had the resources to stand by outside the park every half hour but that's just not feasible, unfortunately. Quite frankly, we are responding more and more frequently to assaults and other crime in the district. I would not feel good about managing one small area at the expense of other hotter spots of criminal activity.

Happy to host a meeting in our offices as we had planned to do end of the year. Not sure why it was rescheduled.

Happy New Year and see you all soon!

Blair Besten

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2016, at 7:11 PM, Nicholas Previsich <[nkprev@yahoo.com](mailto:nkprev@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Yeah, I was throwing that out there as a discussion point, not really as a practical suggestion. I think that the best near-term tweak here would be to brief the El Dorado and Rowan guards that response to Park calls is the priority unless there's an active security incident happening at either building. I don't care if somebody's gotta wait for a package or a food delivery or something under such conditions.

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**From:** William Stevenson <[bill@downtown-properties.com](mailto:bill@downtown-properties.com)>

**To:** Nicholas Previsich <[nkprev@yahoo.com](mailto:nkprev@yahoo.com)>; [patti@pattiberman.com](mailto:patti@pattiberman.com); Sara Hernandez <[sara.hernandez@lacity.org](mailto:sara.hernandez@lacity.org)>;

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**Cc:** Michael Mitchell <[michaelmitchell@theprimeas.com](mailto:michaelmitchell@theprimeas.com)>; Rick <[cpsbrownell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cpsbrownell@sbcglobal.net)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2016 6:22 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Spring St Park Incident

I understood from Rick Brownell that the Spring Street Park guard Chase provides would have direct access to both the Rowan and El Dorado security guards for help plus direct access to the roving Chase guards in the area. And he has access to the BID patrols and the LAPD. A second guard at the Park is not in going to be happening.

Rick welcome back to work (he is scheduled to be back on Monday). Please send all on this email your thoughts on the emails below.

Bill Stevenson

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**From:** Nicholas Previsich [mailto:[nkprev@yahoo.com](mailto:nkprev@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 03, 2016 3:46 PM  
**To:** [patti@pattiberman.com](mailto:patti@pattiberman.com); Sara Hernandez; Blair Besten; Diana Yedoyan; Deon Joseph; William Stevenson; Patti Berman  
**Subject:** Re: Spring St Park Incident

Quick correction: The second guy was arrested on a legacy warrant.

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**From:** Nicholas Previsich <[nkprev@yahoo.com](mailto:nkprev@yahoo.com)>  
**To:** "[patti@pattiberman.com](mailto:patti@pattiberman.com)" <[patti@pattiberman.com](mailto:patti@pattiberman.com)>; Sara Hernandez <[sara.hernandez@lacity.org](mailto:sara.hernandez@lacity.org)>; Blair Besten <[blair@historiccore.bid](mailto:blair@historiccore.bid)>; Diana Yedoyan <[diana.yedoyan@lacity.org](mailto:diana.yedoyan@lacity.org)>; Deon Joseph <[32511@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:32511@lapd.lacity.org)>; William Stevenson <[bill@downtown-properties.com](mailto:bill@downtown-properties.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2016 12:52 PM  
**Subject:** Spring St Park Incident

Hi, Patti. FYI, about 30 min ago two people described to me as "low lifes" and "gangbangers" attacked the guard. They were smoking weed & asked to leave; they didn't like that. LAPD responded & one of them is in cuffs as I write this, but apparently he'll be released with a trespass order because there's no video recording of the area and he intends to press charges against the guard if the guard presses charges against him.

Not an optimal outcome.

A couple of possible changes to consider:

1. Adding another guard. MUCH more money, obviously, but also much safer.
2. Adding security cams. I could try to get one or two added to the El Dorado to point down at the Park, but no guarantee of success since that will cost money. Would also need the Rowan to do the same. Good for evidence (in a limited way), but not much added in terms of deterrence.
3. Establishing a memorandum of agreement with the BID to assist in Park security. I dunno if that's at all practical, Blair, but would like your thoughts. Was thinking if one of your people could hang out there (or even just on the 400 block of Spring) for at least 30 min every hour as a wingman for the guard that would vastly reduce the probability of 2 on 1 incidents like what happened today.

I'm going to ask Chase to change procedures to make rapid response to the Park from the El Dorado (\*only available 1200-0300 daily) and the Rowan a priority as well. In any case, this incident makes it clear that some tweaks are needed, which of course is expected for any new process. Bottom line is that a guy alone in there is vulnerable, so we need to think of ways to mitigate that risk.

The guard schema is still a resounding success; we just need to make sure that he's safe. Have a good week!

Nick

